

the sending part alone is 040204. It is quite obvious that 040104 is just one time unit ahead of 040204. I hope this has clarified the obvious.

Knut Bakke (by email)

Your projects, my projects

Dear Sirs, I have been a long time reader of Elektor, and would like to thank all Elektor (sic) staff for their superb circuits. Your April 2004 magazine is a success and with each new issue you prove that electronics can be conveyed in interesting ways.

My favourite pastimes are audio and music and I've actually built many of your circuits. Some of these may be seen on the photographs on the enclosed CD-ROM. Equipment cases, screen prints and loudspeaker cases are all home made.

As I enjoy every good circuit you provide and build lots of them, I thought I'd show you a few examples of finished equipments.

D. Bozanic

The photographs on the CD-ROM Mr. Bozanic kindly sent us certainly prove his skills at building high-end audio equipment. The photograph reproduced here shows his version of the Prelude stereo preamp, a classic we published decades ago.

Stealing current

Dear Editor, I am constructing the project 'Burglar Alarm' published in the January 2004 issue of Elektor. I have a few doubts about the power supply section. Apparently you have not provided overcharge protection for the 12-V SLA battery. Will this not reduce battery life or destroy it due to over charging? Also, the battery charge current limiting resistor used is 1 k (R1) and the series diode (D6) adds around 500 ohms to it. Will this combination provide enough current for efficient charging? I would like to use a 12 V/7 Ah SLA battery.

Kinjal (by email)

With lead-acid batteries (which includes sealed SLAs), charging

with a certain maximum voltage such as 13.2 V or even 13.8 V also serves as an effective overcharge protection. Regarding the charge current, this is intended for continuous charging. There's nothing wrong with the current of about 0.3 mA used in this case (battery capacity 1.2 Ah) as the circuit is continuously connected to the mains. In your case, you intend to use a much larger battery and the current may be increased by changing the 1-k Ω resistor into 680 Ω . Do not use lower values as that may cause R1 to burn out.

Contact those CPLDs

Dear Jan, your 'Hands-On CPLDs' project is supported by a beautiful double-sided board. Unfortunately, the length of the PLCC socket pins and DIP switch pins is such that they can not be soldered at both sides of the board although it is clear that signals have to be routed to a number of these pins. Do you have a solution to this problem or am I barking up the wrong tree?

Philip Hyams

Double-sided boards supplied through our Readers Services are through-contacted unless otherwise stated. You need to solder at the underside of the board only. The through contact will then establish an electrical connection to any tracks that may run at the component side.

Exotic opamp

Dear Editor, I'd like to build the Audio Level Check for Line Input project published in the November 2002 issue as I find that signals from my stereo system are causing overdriven recordings.

Unfortunately the TS924IN is unavailable locally, can I use a TL074 instead?

Bernard Hook (by email)

Because of the minimum supply voltage it is not possible to use a 'regular' opamp of the type you suggest. If you need to find an alternative, go for a 'rail to rail' opamp.

CORRECTIONS & UPDATES

MIDI Lights & Slide Control

March 2001, p. 26-33, 000179-1.

A few readers have reported lamp flicker when the control is operated. No problems are observed with constant brightness. Flicker may be suppressed by lengthening the synchronisation pulse. This is easiest done by increasing the value of C1 and C2 to 3.3 nF.

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